

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Toshimasa OCHIAI

Ser. No.: 10/774,572

Group Art Unit: 3729

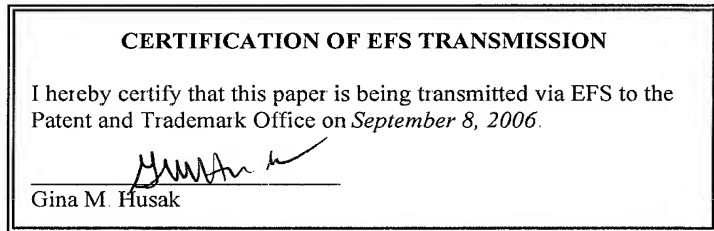
Filed: February 9, 2004

Examiner: Trinh, Minh N.

Confirmation No.: 8506

For: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING CONTACT SHEETS

M.S. Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed July 17, 2006, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of record based on the following arguments.

Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-14 pending herein are in condition for allowance for at least the reasons explained below, and respectfully requests that the PTO issue a Notice of Allowance for this application in due course.

Examiner Trinh is thanked for courtesies extended to Applicant's undersigned representative during a telephonic interview on August 15, 2006. During the telephonic interview, Examiner Trinh clarified that claims 8 and 14 were included among the rejected claims, and confirmed that claims 9-13 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form.

In addition, during the telephonic interview, Applicant's representative also briefly explained the reasons why the applied references are not prior art with respect to the present application. Examiner Trinh indicated that these points should be presented in a written response, and also indicated that he would favorably reconsider the pending claims thereafter.

Claims 1-13 [sic, 1-8 and 14] were rejected under §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,719,569 (to Ochiai) in view of Li. Applicant respectfully submits that this rejection is moot because the '569 patent is not prior art with respect to the present application. That is, the '569 patent is Applicant's own patent (i.e., same inventive entity; same assignee), and it was

not published more than one year before the U.S. filing date of the present application.

In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that none of the Japanese priority applications listed on the face of the '569 patent were laid open more than one year before the U.S. filing date of the present application.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that all claims pending herein define patentable subject matter over the applied references, and respectfully requests that the above rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

If Examiner Trinh believes that contact with Applicant's attorney would be advantageous toward the disposition of this case, he is herein requested to call Applicant's attorney at the phone number noted below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,

September 8, 2006

Date



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